level specifically include, inter alia, use of only one car even if a Minister is holding charge of more than one Ministry/Department and not to use vehicles of Public Sector Undertakings/Autonomous Bodies, etc., ban on first class Air travel during tours abroad and ban on accommodation in hotel suites by Secretary level officers while on tour.

(c) As the expenditure on various items is not compiled centrally, it is difficult to quantify the amount of resultant savings.

Conflicting signals on Inflation

4288. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report in the 'Indian Express' of June 24, 1992 captioned, "Conflicting signals on inflation";

(b) if so, what was the actual rate of inflation registered during 1991-92 calculated on the basis of WPI and how it was at variance with that projected in the Budget presented by him for the current year, 1992-93; and

(c) how far the inflation rate has since been contained month to month from April, 1992 onwards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Budget for 1992-93 indicated Government's determination to bring down the rate of inflation substantially in the fiscal year 1992-93. The annual rate of inflation has been brought down from 13.6 per cent at the end of 1991-92 to 9.1 per cent on week ending August 1, 1992. The month end inflation rates from April, 1992 onwards are given below:

Inflation Rate (Point-to-point) in terms of WPI (Base : 1981-82-100)

Month-end	Per cent
March, 1992	13.6
April, 1992	13.6
May, 1992	12.9
June, 1992	11.3*
Juy, 1992	9.3*

* Provisional.

Fraud in Income Tax Refund

4289. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, recently, a fraud case of Income Tax Refund order was detected in the National Capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what was the total amount of money which was refunded under the bogus orders; and

(d) what is the amount of money that was refunded by the Income Tax Department throughout the country during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In January, 1992, a Case of fraud relating to Income Tax refunds came to the notice of the Reserve Bank of India and the Income Tax Department. On verification, it was found that the Refund Order Books from which refund orders were fraudulently issued were missing. Enquiries in respect of the fraudulent